

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 16-18 are amended. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 since the amendments: (a) place the application in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed herein; (b) do not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration as the amendments amplify issues previously discussed throughout prosecution; and (c) place the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. The amendments are necessary and were not earlier presented because they are made in response to arguments raised in the final rejection. Entry of the amendments is thus respectfully requested.

The courtesies extended to Applicant's representative by Examiner Dinh during the October 24 personal interview, are gratefully appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below and constitute the Applicant's record of the interview.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-8 and 10-13 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Gordon II et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,184,856) in view Hou et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,113,810); claims 14-18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Gordon in view of Hou and further in view of Comiskey (U.S. Patent No. 6,376,828); and claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Gordon and Hou and further in view of Shirochi (U.S. Patent No. 5,872,654). It should be noted that the Office Action erroneously identifies U.S. Patent No. 6,271,823 to Gordon as being the primary prior art reference. During the personal interview, Examiner Dinh indicated that the correct reference was U.S. Patent No. 6,184,856. The rejections are respectfully traversed.

As agreed during the personal interview, none of the applied references, alone or in combination, disclose or suggest an image display medium and associated method that includes a display substrate, a back substrate and particles differing in color and charging

polarity between the display substrate and the back substrate, wherein the particles are directly in contact with at least one of a lower surface of the display substrate and an upper surface of the back substrate, as recited in independent claims 1 and 16-18. Accordingly, independent claims 1 and 16-18, and their dependent claims, are patentable over the applied references. As such, withdrawal of the rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-18 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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